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25X1

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Oranienburg

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

25X1A
DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 30 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

25X1

REMARKS

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1. Advance details which arrived at the restricted Weisse Stadt area in Oranienburg, from 21 to 28 September 1953 and were assigned policing missions included about 12 to 15 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets and were quartered in building No 6, and 20 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with topographic insignia and about 30 officers of this topographic unit who, in addition to 40 soldiers still quartered there, occupied building No 8. Lieutenant Colonel Shuravkov (fnu) was commanding officer of the topographic unit, and Lieutenant Colonel Kuleshov (fnu) was supply officer. The two were observed in the re- 25X1
a stricted area at about 10 a.m. on 24 September. About 20 other men who wore red-bordered black epaulets were quartered in building No 9 and about 12 to 15 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets and were commanded by Junior Lieutenant Bogdanov (fnu) were quartered in building No 11. A Soviet officer said that the commanding officer of the unit which occupied building No 11 was Colonel Antipov (fnu), and that four units would move from Vogelsang to the Weisse Stadt. He stated that the first major contingent would arrive on 3 October. In the morning on 29 September, one lieutenant colonel and one major, who arrived at the
25X1 restricted area complained that no estimates of costs had been made for buildings Nos 14 and 15. When they were told that estimates would only be made on orders of the Eberswalde Kech office and that no orders had yet been received, the lieutenant colonel said that he would immediately contact Eberswalde. The modernizing work in the restricted area made only slow progress as the craftsmen refused to continue working while the panels were not in order. Differences between the construction staff and Soviet officers were a frequent occurrence.

25X1 2. On 29 September, that Lieutenant Colonel Gurov, (fnu), who was in charge of the komendatura on Schuetzen Strasse, had returned from leave in the USSR. Captain Kvashnin (fnu), had been his substitute.

3. On 29 September, the Sachsenhausen concentration camp was still occupied as previously. On 22 September, sedan a soldier wearing red- 25X1
bordered black epaulets and occupied by one lieutenant colonel and one major, entered the billeting area. The sedan later parked in front of installation No 150. On 28 and 29 September, about 15 model BA-64 armored scout cars and 15 to
25X1 20 factory-new armored personnel carriers, were stored between installations Nos 147a and 148 in section 3. the crew of 25X1
the vehicles had not yet arrived at the billets. On 29 September, 25X1

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another 12 canvas-covered armored personnel carriers on cars at the railroad station in Oranienburg.

4. Chief physician Major Zopkov (fnu) instructed the Oranienburg construction staff to complete the modernizing work on installations R 1 and R 2 in section 2 B at the earliest practicable date, stating that they would be occupied to capacity on 5 October. 25X1

5. [redacted]

6. On 23 September, the western section of the SS Barracks and the Oranienburg concentration camp was occupied by about 1,200 men, who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery and motor transport insignia. On 22 September, about 40 men had physical training near the installation and three 6-wheeled factory-new armored personnel carriers left the installation. On 23 September, about 50 men had basic training at Installation No 150 and one armored 25X1A machine gun carrier entered the barracks area from the direction of the castle. 25X1 [redacted] 25X1A

[redacted] 7. From 15 to 25 September, a small wooden guardhouse, at the entrance to Section 2 C, quartered about 20 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia who manned the three watchtowers. Installation R 1 in Section 2 B was a hospital and quartered sick soldiers. The other installations in Section 2 B were still unoccupied and boarded up. Section 2 A seemed still occupied as previously. Installation 12 of Section 2 D quartered about 120 men of the transport unit, who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Installation 18 was used as a garage. All enlisted men and vehicles of the driving-school and transport units entered and left the site through the gate on Trift Strasse. At about 4 p.m. on 17 September, about 50 recruits, who wore red-bordered black epaulets, arrived at Oranienburg from Zehdenick and were marched to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp by an officer. 25X1 [redacted] the men were assigned to the tank instruction unit. On 21 September, source noted that Installation No 134 in Section 3 was furnished and equipped as a hospital. On 24 September 25X1 [redacted] about 12 men wearing new uniforms with red-bordered black epaulets, left the billeting area. From 15 to 25 September, about eight to ten trucks daily practiced driving on the driving ground at the cemetery. On 21 September, about 40 officers, who carried large trunks, left the billeting area in the direction of the railroad station. On 24 September, 25X1 [redacted] which carried factory-new overcoats, entered the billeting area. On several days during the time of observation, trucks with about 20 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets went to the target range near the brickyard. At about 8 a.m., daily 80 to 100 men engaged in sports in front of Installation No 150 and, after 9 a.m., at drill between Installations Nos 150, 148 and 149. [redacted] saw the two green T-34 tanks.

8. On 25 September, the komendatura on Schuetzen Strasse was occupied by about 35 to 40 men. At about 10 a.m., [redacted] about 10 men with submachine guns, drove almost daily to the target range at the brickyard and returned at about 12:30 p.m. [redacted] supplied the komendatura with rations.

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9. On 19 September, buildings 8 and 9 in the restricted Weisse Stadt area quartered men, who, a local resident said, came from Vogelsang.

10. In late September, the scutheastern section of the restricted Weisse Stadt area quartered an increased number of troops. [redacted] 25X1 25X1 a field kitchen, was in the barracks area. [redacted] 25X1

25X1A 1. [redacted] Comment. In late September, the SS Barracks, the Sachsenhausen concentration camp and the restricted Weisse Stadt area were still occupied as previously except for the advance details mentioned. [redacted] 25X1 The present report again confirms that elements of the 25th Tank Div were scheduled to move to the Weisse Stadt from Templin. Referenced report stated that, in early September, driving trainees, probably recruits, who came from Templin, had arrived at the unidentified motor trans battalion of the division. In mid-September, other recruits were presumably assigned to this battalion. In late September, the division probably received factory-new armored scout cars and armored personnel carriers from regular supplies from the USSR, commencing 25X1 25X1 in May. On 30 September, [redacted] observed a train with 25 armored personnel carriers at the Oranienburg railroad station. [redacted] 25X1A The building numbers of the Weisse Stadt are keyed to a previous sketch. See 25X1 [redacted]. The building numbers of the SS Barracks and the Sachsenhausen concentration camp are keyed to a previous sketch. [redacted] The only officers known are Lieutenant Colonel Shuravkov (fnu) and Lieutenant Colonel Kuleshov (fnu).

25X1A 2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] 25X1 of the 25th Tank Div in Oranienburg, whose officers also include Major Pechenin (fnu). Gds Lieutenant Colonel Vodsika (fnu) was reported for the first time. He presumably is commander of the battalion, and was previously 25X1 appointed in 1953, since several [redacted] confirmed Gds Lieutenant Colonel Vodeyko (fnu) as battalion commander in 1951 and 1952. [redacted] 25X1 25X1 [redacted] It is fairly definitely believed that Gds Lieutenant Colonel Yurchenko (fnu) who was hitherto unknown, is chief of staff of the division. [redacted] transport battalion of the 25th Tank Div in Oranienburg, whose officers include Major Kabanov (fnu), probably as supply officer. According to the second 25X1 [redacted] in paragraph 5, Gds Lieutenant Colonel Dolgov (fnu), who was hitherto unknown, is commanding officer of this battalion.

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